

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-23 remain in the application for further prosecution. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-8, 13-17 and 21 have been amended.

Interview Summary

The Applicant notes with appreciation the interview with Examiners Mede and Moise on October 19, 2007. Pursuant to the discussions in the interview, the Applicant has amended the claims to clarify the claimed subject matter. The Examiners agreed to review the references of record in view of the amendments, but agreed that the cited references did not appear to disclose these features.

During the interview, the Applicant agreed to clarify various claims to overcome the enablement objections. Applicant has also amended various claims to correct minor typographical errors

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 112

The Office Action objected to the phrase, "the plurality of memory locations are spaced from each other" in claims 17 and 19-20 as failing to comply with written description requirement. As noted in the interview, support for reading a plurality of memory locations that are spaced from each other may be found at least in paragraphs 62 and 71 of the specification.

The Office Action objected to claim 13, asserting that a second memory coupled to said processor was not disclosed in the specification. Applicant has amended claim 13 to clarify the element of a first memory and respectfully submits that the second memory in claim 13 is supported at least by element 46 described in paragraphs 23 and 24 and Fig. 2 of the specification. Element 46 is a boot memory (along with two other memories 48 and 50) that is coupled to the processor 32 and contains executable program code. Amended claim 13 is therefore supported by the specification.

The Office Action objected to claim 21 for informalities. Applicant has amended claim 20 to correct the typographical error noted by the Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0049909 ("Jackson et al.") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,727,544 ("Brunner et al.") and U.S. Patent No. 4,751,636 ("Sibley").

Pursuant to the interview, Applicant is amending claim 1 to include the elements of the next address having a number N, "wherein N is equal to a positive or negative integer excluding -1, 0 and 1 ... such that the next memory location is separated from said first next memory location by at least one memory location." The Examiners agreed that such features appear to distinguish over the cited references.

Applicant is also amending independent claim 13 to require that the sample of memory locations for the hash calculations are selected "such that each of said memory locations of said sample of memory locations is separated from other memory locations of said sample of memory locations by at least one memory location." Similarly, independent claim 17 has been amended to require that the plurality of memory locations read for the hash value calculation is "such that each of said plurality of memory locations is separated from the other memory locations by at least one memory location." As explained in the interview, none of the cited references discloses these features.

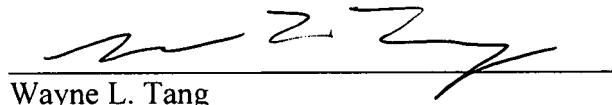
Conclusion

It is Applicant's belief that all of the claims are now in condition for allowance and actions towards that effect is respectfully requested.

If there are any matters which may be resolved or clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the number indicated.

Respectfully submitted,

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